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PTO/SB/21 (09-06)

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

21

Application Number

10/678,403 (1004)

Filing Date

October 3, 2003

First Named Inventor

Paul J. Hindrichs

Art Unit

3731

Examiner Name

Timothy J. Neal

ENCLOSURES

(Check all that apply)



Fee Transmittal Form



Fee Attached



Amendment/Reply (in duplicate)



After Final



Affidavits/declaration(s)



Extension of Time Request



Express Abandonment Request



Information Disclosure Statement



Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete ApplicationReply to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Drawing(s)



Licensing-related Papers



Petition

Petition to Convert to a
Provisional ApplicationPower of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence Address

Terminal Disclaimer



Request for Refund



CD, Number of CD(s) _____



Landscape Table on CD



After Allowance Communication to TC

Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and InterferencesAppeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

Proprietary Information



Status Letter

Other Enclosure(s) (please identify
below):
return postcard.**Remarks**

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) that may be due under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (Order No. 000293.0053). A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Customer No. 1473

Signature

Printed name

Jeffrey C. Aldridge

Date

April 25, 2007

Reg. No.

51,390

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

EXPRESS MAILING LABEL

NO. EV930034271US

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Signature

Typed or printed name

Isatta B. Smith

Date

April 25, 2007

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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293/053

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Paul J. Hindrichs et al.
Application No. : 10/678,403 Confirmation No.: 1004
Filed : October 3, 2003
For : SELF-EXPANDING EXTERIOR CONNECTORS FOR CREATING
ANASTOMOSES TO SMALL-DIAMETER VESSELS AND
METHODS OF USE
Group Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Timothy J. Neal

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants hereby reply to the Office Action dated January 9, 2007, which did not address the merits of the above-identified patent application, but required restriction to one of three inventions.

A three-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action dated January 9, 2007 for the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested. The Director is hereby authorized to charge \$1,020.00 in payment of the three-month extension-of-time fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (order no.: 099999.0099). A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.